



MEDIA RELEASE

June 2, 2018

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Hudson's Hope Goes Solar, Big Time!

The small, rural community of Hudson's Hope in northeast British Columbia is leading the way in municipal-scale solar power. 1550 solar panels have been installed on nine municipal facilities, creating B.C.'s largest municipal solar project and the most solarized community per capita in the province.

And as the solar panels go up, the District of Hudson's Hope electrical bills are going down, down, down.

"We calculate that the District's electricity costs will be reduced by more than \$74,000 per year in the first year," explains District CAO Tom Matus. "If we allow for expected future rate increases, we'll save close to \$3 million over the next 30 years."

Over this past summer and fall, 510 kilowatts of grid-tied solar have been installed at nine Hudson's Hope municipal facilities, including their curling rink, arena, District Office, public works shop, tourist information centre, museum, swimming pool, their regional fire hall and sewage treatment facility.

With a District population of just over 1000 residents, Hudson's Hope can now claim to be the most solarized community per capita in B.C.

"We are proud to be a leader in electricity self-generation," says Mayor Gwen Johansson, "and we appreciate the BC Hydro net-metering program that helps us achieve it and make this possible."

For the District, local hiring, training and community engagement were important parts of their solar project. Students from Hudson's Hope High School were hired for the summer to help with the solar installation, and a series of well-attended solar workshops were held in the community.

A "Solar Celebration" and ribbon cutting officially commissioned the finished solar project June 2, 2018.

"This project will reduce our Municipal District electrical costs for these buildings by an average of about 65 percent," comments Mayor Johansson. "It will also be a source of community pride and contribute to our long-term economic development. We are thrilled by the benefits that come with our move to a clean energy future."

Hudson's Hope received a \$1.35 million grant from the Strategic Priorities Fund / Federal Gas Tax Fund through the Union of BC Municipalities for their solar project.

Peace Energy Renewable Energy Cooperative / Moch Electric Ltd. Joint Venture in nearby Dawson Creek was selected to design, supply and install the solar power systems.

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For more information, call Hudson's Hope District Office at 250-783-9901
visit our website or join us on Facebook

<http://hudsonshope.ca>

<https://m.facebook.com/hudsons.hope.bc>





MEDIA RELEASE

May 10, 2018

RESOURCES:

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<http://hudsonshope.ca/>
<https://m.facebook.com/hudsons.hope.bc>
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BC Hydro net metering:

www.bchydro.com/net-metering

SOLAR QUICK FACTS:

- Solar power is the fastest growing energy source in the world.
- The International Energy Agency predicts that within 30 years solar will be the world's biggest single source of electricity.
- The cost of solar power has decreased by more than 80% over the last 8 years.
- The cost of solar continues to decline and will be cost competitive with all other sources of electricity within just one or two years.
- Solar modules convert sunlight directly into electricity with no moving parts, no fuel, no noise and no pollution. They come with 25-year warranties and will operate with little maintenance for at least 50 years.
- In 2015, the world added more capacity for renewable energy (mostly solar and wind) than coal, oil, gas and nuclear combined.